



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Before the Examiner:
Bailey et al. : Shah, Niles R.
Serial No.: 09/628,367 : Group Art Unit: 2127
Filed: July 31, 2000 :
Title: METHOD, PROGRAM PRODUCT : IBM Corporation
AND COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR : P.O. Box 12195
PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENT : Dept. T81/503
OF AN ENVIRONMENT POOL : Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 06 2004
Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicant transmits herewith the following: (1) Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; (2) Petition for One-Month Extension; and (3) Acknowledgment postcard.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any item referred to as being enclosed herewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 17, 2003.

Signature

Serena Beller

(Printed name of person certifying)



GB9-2000-0083-US1

PATENT

- 1 -

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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of September 2, 2003 (Paper No. 4), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 2, 2003, and extended hereby to January 2, 2004 by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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